

USC Upstate Mission, Values, and Priorities

We, the faculty of the University of South Carolina Upstate, recognize our special responsibility to honor and exemplify the values affirmed by the University. The University's core values serve as the philosophical underpinnings of the institution's mission. They also serve to govern attitudes, behaviors, and decisions in daily activities among stakeholders.

MISSION

The University of South Carolina Upstate is a leading regional public university that transforms the lives of our diverse students, their families, and communities—advancing social and economic mobility throughout the Upstate region. Consistent with the international character of the Upstate, the University promotes global perspectives and serves as a driver of economic growth. Our innovative courses and programs are offered in a variety of formats and locations to meet undergraduate and graduate student needs. The University attracts exceptional, diverse faculty, staff, and students who engage in high-impact experiential learning, cutting-edge research, and deeply connected community engagement. A University of South Carolina education empowers students to become lifelong leaders in their professions and communities.

Approved by USC Board of Trustees, June 24, 2021. Pending approval by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education, May 30, 2006.

CORE VALUES

The University's core values not only serve as the philosophical underpinnings of the institution's mission, but they serve to govern attitudes, behaviors and decisions in daily activities among stakeholders. As such, the University of South Carolina Upstate affirms that:

PEOPLE come first. We are committed to creating an inclusive environment wherein we respect our differences as we pursue our common academic purposes. Our employees, students, parents and partners are the University's most valuable assets. We aim to work hard, work smart and always do the right thing. We cooperate and collaborate with colleagues and constituents, aiming to be responsive, flexible, accessible and friendly in our service. We strive to be goodwill ambassadors for the University, and to advance its reputation and its metropolitan mission.

STEWARDSHIP of resources is critical to accomplishing the University's mission. We understand the importance of evaluating and reflecting on our daily activities in order to gain the highest value in return for the University's and our own professional investments. As employees, we aim to apply principles of honesty and fiscal responsibility in order to conserve student, partner, and University resources as though they were our own.

INTEGRITY as an academic institution drives our daily activities. That integrity includes a passion for teaching and learning, and a belief that every employee and student has a right to learn and progress

as far as he or she is able. We seek, therefore, to provide a distinctive learning environment that supports and encourages employee growth and personal and professional development.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

We create transformative opportunities . . .

- By Providing Rigorous, Career Relevant, and Accessible Education
- By Enhancing the Quality of Life in Upstate South Carolina
- By Being the University of Choice for Faculty and Staff, Students, and the Community